

# Setting

Encanto is situated on approximately 994 acres in the northeastern portion of Southeastern San Diego. It is bounded on the north by Mallard Street, on the south by Akins Avenue, on the east by the city of Lemon Grove, and on the west by 60<sup>th</sup> Street.

In 1889, Alice Klauber named the subdivision Encanto, the Spanish word for "enchantment." The area contains a series of natural canyons and rolling hills. Radio Canyon, which cuts diagonally from the northeast to the southwest corners of Encanto, is a major natural open space system that has been purchased by the City of San Diego for preservation as open space.

Encanto is divided into two subareas by Broadway. The northern subarea is a mixture of single-family homes on large lots, industrial uses along Federal Boulevard, and large vacant lots. The southern area, accounting for 30 percent of the total neighborhood, is bounded by Broadway on the north and Akins Avenue on the south. This area is developed with a mixture of low and medium residential densities (5-30 units per acre), commercial uses along Akins Avenue, and public facilities.

| Existing Land Uses (1986)                 |            |  |
|---|------------|--|
| Type of Use                               | Percent    |  |
| Residential                               |            |  |
| Very-Low Density (0-5 du/ac, 1 du/lot)    | 80%        |  |
| Low-Medium Density (10-15 du/ac)          | 2.5%       |  |
| Commercial                                | 1%         |  |
| Industrial                                | 2%         |  |
| Institutional (Encanto Elementary School) | 2.5%       |  |
| Public Parks                              | 2%         |  |
| Vacant                                    | <u>10%</u> |  |
|   | 100%       |  |

#### Residential

Nearly 6,300 people reside in Encanto, with an overall density of about five dwelling units per acre in the northern subarea and approximately five dwelling units per acre in the southern subarea. The residential areas in Encanto are stable and quiet, with a mixture of housing conditions and types. The majority of the single-family homes are well-maintained.

The highest densities (15-30 units per acre) are north of Akins Avenue and south of Broadway where a scattering of apartment complexes have developed over the past 20 years. In many cases, these complexes are poorly maintained and landscaped, resulting in deteriorated conditions.

#### Commercial

A mixture of commercial uses have developed along the north side of Akins Avenue, including a liquor store, auto storage, auto repair, and a plumbing supply yard. For the majority of commercial services, the residents of Encanto shop in Lemon Grove.

#### Industrial

A variety of industrial uses have developed along the north side of Federal Boulevard and on the south side of Federal Boulevard between Winnett Street and Oriole Street. Motor home sales, a lumber yard, a contractor's storage yard, and an abandoned cable television facility are among the industrial uses. Access to State Highway 94 is a primary attraction for these users.

# Schools and Public Facilities

The neighborhood has one school, Encanto Elementary School, located at the southwest corner of Broadway and 65<sup>th</sup> Street. A City of San Diego Park and Recreation Center is located across the street to the north and east from the elementary school. The Encanto Recreation Center includes baseball fields, picnic areas, and shuffle board courts, and a senior citizen center.

#### Vacant Parcels

Nearly ten percent of Encanto has remained vacant, with the majority of the parcels located in the western portion of the neighborhood, where steep slopes are common.

#### <u>Transportation Facilities</u>

The neighborhood's major streets are 60<sup>th</sup> Street, which runs north and south, Broadway and Radio Drive, Federal Boulevard, Mallard Street and Akins Avenue, which run east and west.

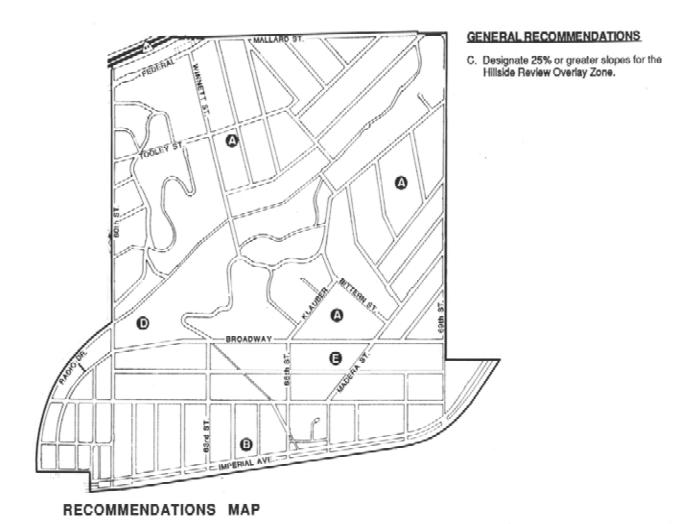
The proposed Encanto Trolley Station site is located along the southern boundary of this neighborhood, between 62<sup>nd</sup> and 63<sup>rd</sup> Streets on the north side of Akins Avenue. The station site is 2.25 acres. Service to this station is part of the second phase of the East Urban Line

development, expected to be operational by 1988. Akins Avenue runs parallel to Imperial Avenue, with the two separated by the railroad tracks.

# **Encanto Objectives**

- 1. Preserve the existing single-family large lot development.
  - The large-lot, single-family neighborhoods are worthy of preservation because this type of development creates the rural atmosphere which is characteristic of Encanto.
- 2. Preserve the natural canyons and slopes of Encanto.
- 3. Improve the landscaping on both private and public land on both sides of Federal Boulevard.
- 4. Permit residential infill and redevelopment on the north side of Akins Avenue at densities which do not conflict with surrounding uses.

#### **Encanto Recommendations**



A. Maintain the character of the rural single-family neighborhood by preserving the Rl-6000, Rl-10000, Rl-15000, and Rl-20000 zones.

Preservation of the rural character of Encanto's residential areas is the highest priority for this neighborhood. The existing zoning should be retained, while adding the Hillside Review Overlay Zone in areas where the slopes are in excess of 25 percent. Public improvements should include rolled curbs and natural-appearing materials in the sidewalks, in order to retain the rural character.

B. Designate the properties north of Akins Avenue between 60th Street and 65th Street for low-medium density residential development (10-15 units per net acre).

In consideration of surrounding land uses and low density Rl-6000 zoned residential development to the north, this plan recommends that properties along a portion of Akins be rezoned to a low-medium density of 10-15 units per net acre.

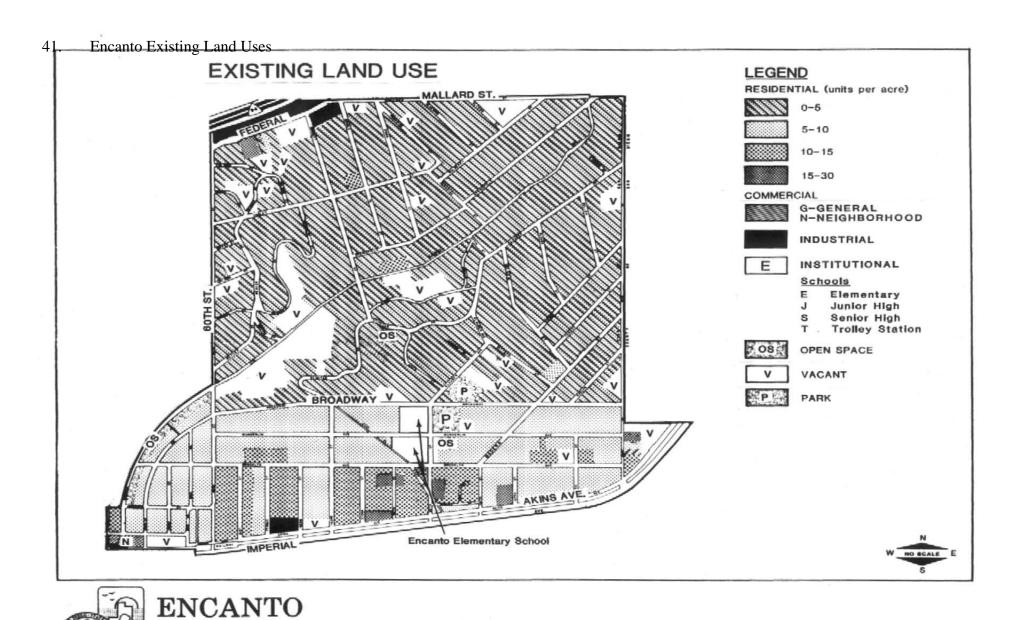
C. Designate lands in excess of 25 percent slope for the Hillside Review Overlay Zone.

Most of the vacant parcels in Encanto have significant slopes and should be developed according to the standards of the Hillside Review Overlay Zone, in order to preserve as much of the natural topography as much as possible.

D. Acquire the eastern branch of Radio Canyon through the City of San Diego's Open Space Acquisition Program.

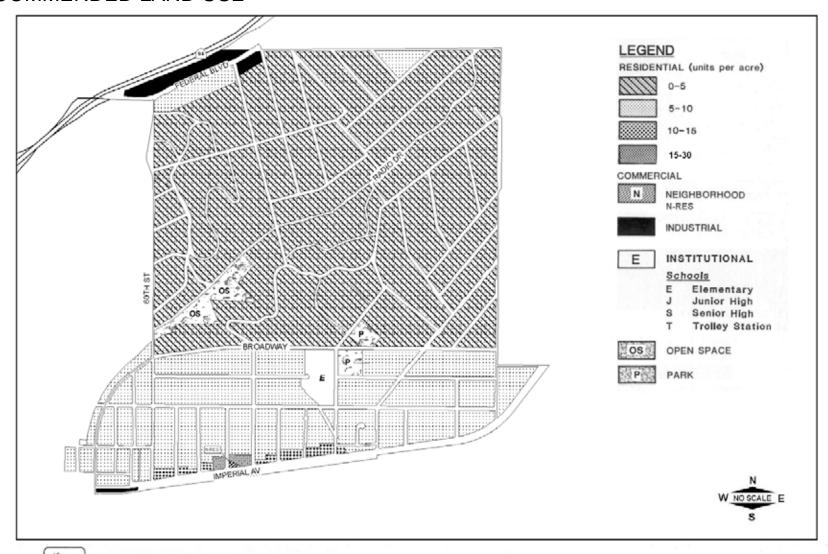
The City of San Diego should purchase the remaining eastern branch of Radio Canyon as soon as possible in order to complete acquisition of this important natural open space.

- E. The Encanto Elementary School should only be developed with compatible private development after it has been determined that it is not needed for use as a public facility through the Institutional Overlay Zone review process. In the event that residential re-use is considered, the density should be at 5-10 units per acre.
- F. Designate the 1.02-acre site at the northwest corner of Akins Avenue and 62<sup>nd</sup> Street to medium-high density at 15-30 units per acre. Designate the San Diego Trolley Parking Lot at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Street Trolley Station for Neighborhood Commercial, Residential Allowed and Residential 30-44 du/ac consistent with the Village/Mixed Use Element. Apply the CN-1-3 zone to the corner of Akins Street and 62<sup>nd</sup> Street and RM-1-3 zones for the remainder of the parking lot.



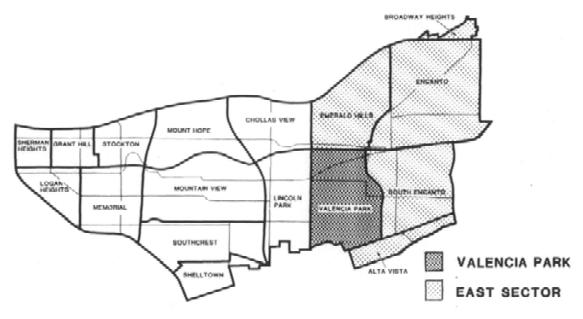
CITY OF SAN DIEGO · PLANNING DEPARTMENT

# RECOMMENDED LAND USE



ENCANTO
SOUTHEASTERN SAN DIEGO
CITY OF SAN DIEGO · PLANNING DEPARTMENT

#### THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF VALENCIA PARK



# **Setting**

Valencia Park is situated on approximately 657 acres in the south-central portion of Southeastern San Diego. It is bounded on the north by Market Street, on the south by the city of National City and Division Street, on the east by Valencia Parkway, and on the west by Euclid Avenue.

The area contains a wide range of topographic features including steep slopes and rolling hills, plateaus, canyons and floodplains. The highest point, located in the southeastern corner of the neighborhood near 58<sup>th</sup> Street and Arroyo Avenue, provides a 360 degree view of San Diego. Valencia Canyon, located north of Valencia Park Elementary School, is a major natural open space area that is being acquired by the City of San Diego through its open space acquisition program.

The portion of Valencia Park north of Imperial Avenue is a mixture of industrial uses and medium-high residential development (30-45 units per acre). The central portion is developed predominantly with a medium residential density (15-30 units per acre). The southern part of Valencia Park is developed with a low residential density (5-10 units per acre) and public facilities.

#### **Transportation Facilities**

The neighborhood's major streets are Euclid Avenue and Valencia Parkway, which run north and south, and Market Street, Imperial Avenue, and Churchward Street which run east and west. The City is now in the process of acquiring lands necessary to construct an extension to complete the construction of Valencia Parkway through to Market Street. At present, the Parkway ends at 59<sup>th</sup> Street, immediately north of Valencia Park Elementary School.

Although the San Diego Trolley Euclid Station is outside the neighborhood, the trolley stop, located at the intersection of Euclid Avenue and Market Street is a focal point for the eastern portion of Southeastern San Diego in the near future.

| Existing Land Use                        |            |
|--|------------|
| Type of Use                              | Percent    |
| Residential                              |            |
| Low Density (5-10 du/ac, 1 du/lot)       | 70%        |
| Low-Medium Density (10-15 du/ac)         | 5%         |
| Medium-High Density (15-45 du/ac)        | 5%         |
| Commercial                               | 1%         |
| Industrial                               | 5%         |
| Institutional (Valencia Park Elementary) | 4%         |
| Vacant                                   | <u>10%</u> |
|  | 100%       |

#### Residential

Nearly 7,500 people reside in Valencia Park, with an overall density of about ten dwelling units per acre. The residential areas in Valencia Park are stable and quiet, with a mixture of young and old families. The majority of the single-family homes are well-maintained. The highest densities (15-45 units per acre) are north of Churchward Street, in the northern and central subareas. A 90-unit trailer park is located north of Imperial Avenue, just east of 54<sup>th</sup> Street. Although the zoning varies, the residential densities south of Churchward Street are generally low with one home per lot.

#### Commercial

The northeast and southeast corners of Imperial Avenue and Euclid Avenue have developed with commercial uses including a gas station and a convenience store. For the majority of commercial services, the residents of Valencia Park shop in National City.

#### Industrial

A variety of industrial uses have developed south of Market Street and north of the railroad tracks east of Euclid Avenue. Light manufacturing (building materials, luggage, pottery), and warehousing/distribution (beer distribution) are included in the industrial uses. Access to the railroad tracks has been a primary attraction for these users.

#### **Schools and Public Facilities**

The neighborhood has one elementary school, Valencia Park Elementary School, located on Skyline Drive near Valencia Parkway. The school yard serves as an eight-acre neighborhood park which has been developed with two softball fields (which can also serve as two soccer fields or three football fields). Although the fields are scheduled and programmed through the City Park and Recreation Department, the field is open to the general public.

# **Vacant Parcels**

Nearly ten percent of Valencia Park has remained vacant, with four major vacant. The first, located south of the railroad tracks and east of 54<sup>th</sup> Street, is known as the "Potter Tract." The 13-acre Potter Tract is located in the 100-year floodplain and is several feet lower than surrounding parcels. The property had been designated for industrial use on the 1969 community plan.

The second and third parcels are west of 58<sup>th</sup> Street and south of Olvera Avenue. Both parcels are very steep. The fourth parcel is located just east of Euclid Avenue and south of Trinidad Way in the southern subarea. This acre parcel is a steep natural state canyon with a branch of Las Chollas Creek flowing through it.

# Valencia Park Objectives

- 1. Preserve the existing, well-maintained single-family development.
- 2. Valencia Canyon is an attractive natural canyon and should be preserved for future generations.
- 3. Improve the appearance of Imperial Avenue and Euclid Avenue.
- 4. Take advantage of the strategic location of the vacant Potter Tract to provide needed goods and services or other community-serving uses such as an employment center.
- 5. Ensure that move-on houses are treated in an aesthetic manner or not permitted.
- 6. The vacant parcels south of Arroyo Avenue and west of 58<sup>th</sup> Street should be developed in such a way as to minimize disturbance of the land's natural topography and vegetation.

# SKYLINE DR. 0 RECOMMENDATIONS MAP

#### Valencia Park Recommendations

A. Maintain the character of the neighborhood by preserving the single-family areas and their Rl-5000 zones.

Preservation of the existing stable, well-maintained single-family neighborhood is a high priority for Valencia Park. The existing Rl-5000 and Rl-10000 zoning should be retained by designating these areas for very-low and low residential densities (0-5 and 5-10 units per net acre). Detached units are recommended.

B. Require the use of the Hillside Review Overlay Zone in order to preserve natural hilly terrain.

The properties presently zoned Rl-10,000 should be rezoned to the standards of the Hillside Review Overlay Zone. The property located east of Euclid Avenue and south of Trinidad Way should also be developed according to the standards of the Hillside Review Overlay Zone.

#### GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- G. Require special permits for all move-ons.
- C. Preserve the natural state of Valencia Canyon with a rezoning to Rl-40000 and through acquisition by the City of San Diego as open space.
  - The City of San Diego should complete its acquisition of Valencia Canyon in order to preserve this valuable resource. In the interim, the property should be rezoned to Rl-40000.
- D. Designate the properties south of Market Street from 51<sup>st</sup> Street to Pitta Street, and south of the railroad tracks from 51<sup>st</sup> Street to approximately San Jacinto Drive, for industrial use.

E. Rezone the Potter Tract to an industrial zone.

<u>Alternative 1</u>. The vacant Potter Tract should be rezoned and developed with a light industrial center with some office and accessory retail uses. The tract is in a strategic location, serving as an entry into the eastern portion of Southeastern San Diego.

<u>Alternative 2</u>. If a light industrial center is not feasible, the vacant Potter Tract could be developed with community serving commercial uses. A rezone from industrial to a commercial use should not require an amendment to this plan. The trailer park site north of Imperial Avenue and east of 54<sup>th</sup> Street could also be rezoned in the future, without the need for a plan amendment, to allow light industrial uses similar to those in Gateway Center East. The site is too small to be redeveloped for new mobile home use and may add needed acreage to the Potter Tract for development.

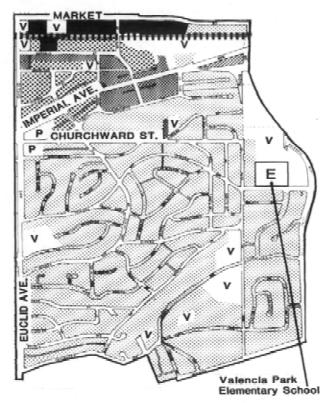
- F. Extend Valencia Parkway all the way to Market Street to give the community better north/south access.
- G. Require special permits for all move-ons.

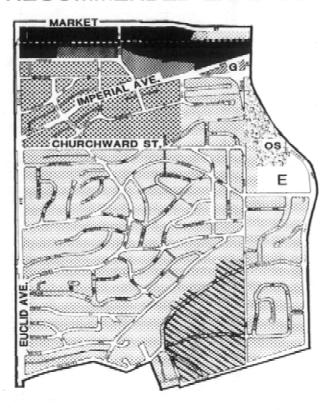
Move-ons should be carefully regulated to ensure that the siting and character are compatible with surrounding development and that there is minimal disturbance to the natural hilly topography.

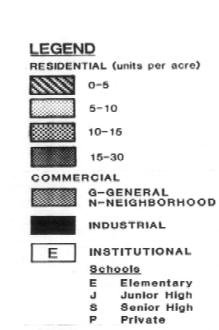
- H. Valencia Park Elementary School should be rezoned to the Institutional Overlay Zone. This site should only be developed with compatible private development after it has determined that it is not needed for use as a public facility through the Institutional Overlay Zone review process. In the event that residential development is considered for the site, the density should be compatible with the density of the surrounding neighborhood, 5-10 units per acre.
- I. The vacant site at Radio Drive and Imperial Avenue, owned by St. Steven's Church, may be developed with a senior citizen housing project subject to a Conditional Use Permit provided that such use is church-sponsored and fully subsidized. The density of the project should be compatible with the density of the surrounding neighborhood and in no case should exceed 30 dwelling units per acre.
- J. The low-medium density (10-15 dwelling units per net acre, MF-3000 Zone) multi\_family portion of the neighborhood located on the north side of Churchward Boulevard between San Jacinto Drive and Manzanares Way should be identified as a "Special Character Multifamily Multi-Family Neighborhood" that would be protected with development standards recommended by the Urban Design Element.

# EXISTING LAND USE

# RECOMMENDED LAND USE







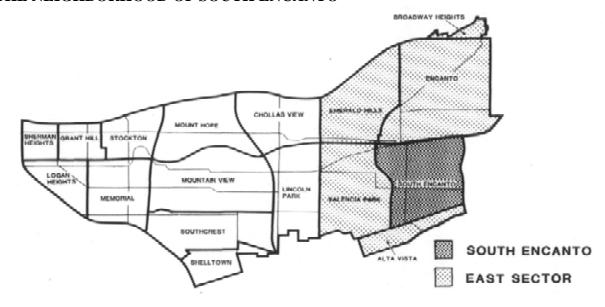
OPEN SPACE

VACANT





#### THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF SOUTH ENCANTO



# Setting

South Encanto is situated on approximately 640 acres in the southeastern portion of Southeastern San Diego. It is bounded on the north by Imperial Avenue, on the south by Division Street, on the east by Woodman Street, and on the west by Valencia Parkway. The area contains a wide range of topographic features including steep slopes and rolling hills, plateaus, and canyons.

The northern part of South Encanto includes the commercial corridor south of Imperial Avenue and low to medium density residential development (10-30 units per acre). The area south of the commercial corridor is developed with a low residential density (5-10 units per acre) and public facilities.

The neighborhood's major streets are Imperial Avenue, Skyline Drive, and Division Street which run east and Woodman Street, which runs north and south.

The proposed Encanto Trolley Station site, located at 62<sup>nd</sup> Street and Akins Avenue, will serve south Encanto.

| Existing Land Uses (1986)                      |            |  |
|--|------------|--|
| Type of Use                                    | Percent    |  |
| Residential                                    |            |  |
| Low Density (5-10 du/lot)                      | 60%        |  |
| Low-Medium Density (10-15 du/ac)               | 7%         |  |
| Medium Density (15-30 du/ac)                   | 5%         |  |
| Commercial                                     | 3%         |  |
| Institutional (Valencia Park Elementary School | 10%        |  |
| Public Parks                                   | 10%        |  |
| Open Space                                     | 1%         |  |
| Vacant   | <u>10%</u> |  |
|  | 100%       |  |

#### Residential

Nearly 6,000 people reside in South Encanto, with an overall density of about ten dwelling units per acre. The area mainly consists of single-family homes. These homes are detached and well maintained. Many homes were built to overlook the natural canyons in this area.

A 254-unit mobile home park is located at 63<sup>rd</sup> Street and Imperial Avenue. The park is zoned with a mobile home overlay zone.

The highest densities (15-30 units per acre) are found in the northeastern portion of the neighborhood where three apartment complexes have been constructed.

# Commercial

A mixture of commercial uses have developed along the south side of Imperial Avenue, including several churches, a gas station, a restaurant, a print shop, a job training facility, and a variety of retail shops. For the majority of commercial services, the residents of South Encanto shop in National City and Lemon Grove.

#### **Public Facilities**

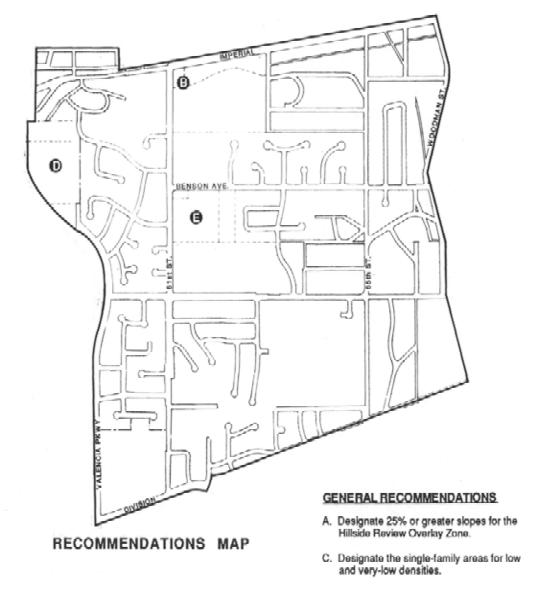
The neighborhood contains 0'Farrell School of Creative and Performing Arts, located at the northeast corner of 61<sup>st</sup> Street and Skyline Drive. This school serves grades 4 through 12 and is a magnet school for fine arts instruction. The neighborhood also contains a 35-acre community park. This park is Martin Luther King Park and Recreation Center and is located south of Skyline Drive and west of 65<sup>th</sup> Street. The recreation center includes a large community center, indoor basketball and racquetball courts, and an outdoor swimming pool.

#### Vacant Parcels

Approximately ten percent of South Encanto has remained vacant, with parcels scattered throughout the neighborhood.

#### South Encanto Objectives

- 1. Preserve and protect the natural canyons and slopes of South Encanto.
- 2. Retain viable businesses along Imperial Avenue and encourage both rehabilitation and infill development.
- 3. Improve street tree landscaping in the public right-of-way along Imperial Avenue.
- 4. Preserve the single-family nature of the low density areas.



# **South Encanto Recommendations**

A. Designate lands in excess of 25 percent slope for the Hillside Review Overlay Zone.

Most of the vacant parcels in South Encanto have significant slopes and should be developed according to the standards of the Hillside Review Overlay Zone, in order to preserve as much of the natural topography as possible.

B.Commercial revitalization and rehabilitation is recommended for the south side of Imperial Avenue, east of 61<sup>st</sup> Street.

The 1\_ mile stretch of Imperial Avenue is proposed as a focus of public and private revitalization and redevelopment. The corridor has good potential for multifamily housing

development, and new commercial services and offices. The area will be served by the 62<sup>nd</sup> Street trolley stop immediately north of Imperial Avenue on Akins Avenue.

A commercial revitalization program should be initiated, beginning with the creation of a Business Improvement District for Imperial Avenue. Public improvements should also be made including increased lighting, landscaping, and code enforcement.

Low interest rehabilitation loans should be focused on locations where property owners are organized and will commit their own funds to improvements. Imperial Avenue should be given high priority for public landscape improvements through the Project First Class Landscape Improvement Program.

This plan recommends a recreational, visitor serving, commercial zoning for this area. Recreational commercial zoning is intended to provide for establishments catering to the dining and general entertainment uses of the community and visitors to the community. Pedestrian orientation, landscaped walkways, and increased lighting are desired features for this commercial area.

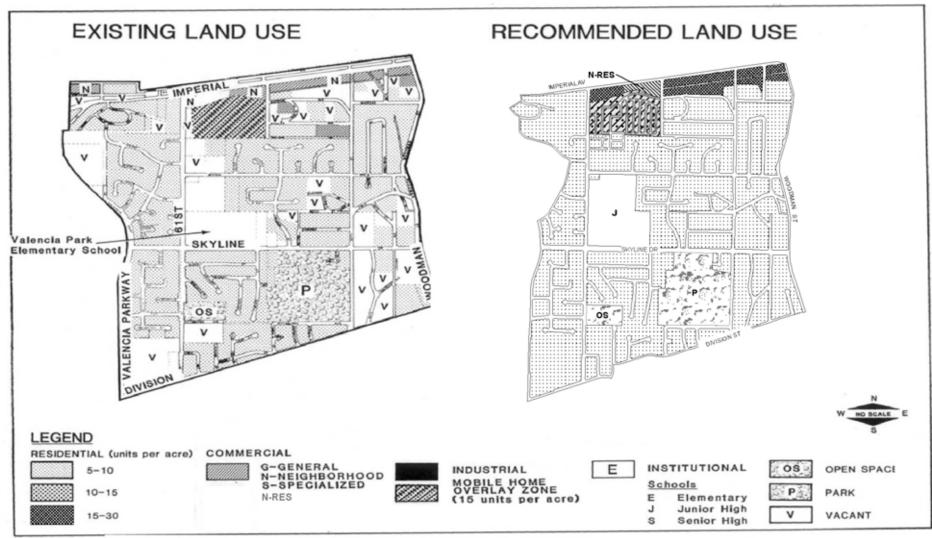
B. Redevelop the area along Imperial Avenue from 61<sup>st</sup> Street to Woodman Street as a Transit Corridor with a residential emphasis, consistent with the Village/Mixed Use Element.

Designate the majority of the area Residential 15 to 30, except for the parcel south of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Street Trolley Station. Designate this parcel Neighborhood Commercial Residential Allowed and zone this parcel CN-1-3. The remainder of this corridor should be zoned to provide rental and for-sale homes, including single-family attached and multi-family units at a broad range of affordability levels.

C. Maintain the character of the neighborhood by designating the single-family areas for low and very-low densities (0-5 and 5-10 units per net acre).

Preservation of the existing stable, well-maintained single-family neighborhood is the highest priority for South Encanto. The existing Rl-5000 and Rl-10000 zoning should be retained. Developments within the very-low and low residential densities should consist of detached units.

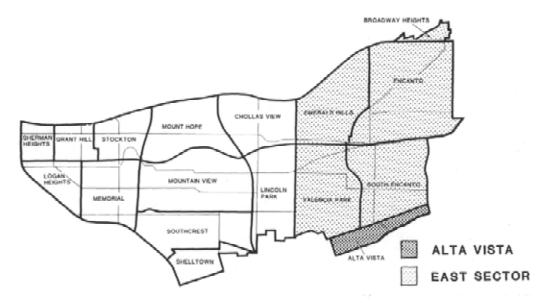
- D. Rezone the area east of Radio Drive, north of Valencia Parkway, and east of 59<sup>th</sup> Street from Rl-5000 to Rl-40000. The City of San Diego is in the process of acquiring this area of Valencia Canyon for open space.
- E. Rezone Valencia Park Elementary School to the Institutional Overlay Zone. This site should be developed with compatible private development only after it has been determined that it is not needed for use as a public facility. Where it is determined that residential development is appropriate for the site, the density should be compatible with that of the surrounding neighborhood (10-15 units per acre).



SOUTH ENCANTO SOUTHEASTERN SAN DIEGO

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#### THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF ALTA VISTA



#### Setting

Alta Vista is situated on approximately 179 acres in the southeastern corner of Southeastern San Diego. It is bounded on the north by Division Street, on the south by Mariposa Place and Plaza Boulevard, on the east by Woodman Street, and on the west by the city of National City. The neighborhood is surrounded with residential development.

The subdivision known as "Alta Vista" was approved in the early 1960s, and was located in the western portion of the neighborhood. Development continued to the east during the mid-1970s and early 1980s. The neighborhood is made up of a varied terrain, with two minor creeks running north/south through the western portion of the neighborhood.

The significant features of this neighborhood are its high level of public improvements and the good condition of its housing. The neighborhood has been landscaped by private property owners, with open space areas landscaped through the original subdivision process. Public and commercial services are available to the north, south and east within the City of San Diego, and to the west in the city of National City.

The neighborhood's major streets are Division Street and Plaza Boulevard, which run east and west, and Woodman Street, which runs north and south. Division Street is currently carrying traffic volumes in excess of the City's design standards.

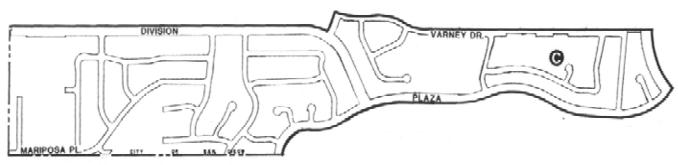
#### Land Use

Virtually all of Alta Vista has been developed residentially with ten percent of its land still vacant, primarily due to the steep topography of these areas. Approximately 1,400 people reside in Alta Vista, with an overall density of about six units per acre. The population density is among the lowest in the Southeastern San Diego community. Seventy percent of Alta Vista has been developed for low density residential, with one home on one lot. Nearly all of the homes are in excellent condition. The neighborhood has public improvements including curb, gutter, sidewalks, streets and street lighting. The majority of the residences are owner-occupied. The median income is among the highest in the community. The lowest densities are located in the southeastern portion of the neighborhood and are zoned R1-1000.

| Existing Land Uses (1986)              |         |  |
|--|---------|--|
| Type of Use                            | Percent |  |
| Residential                            |         |  |
| Very-Low Density (0-5 du/ac, 1 du/lot) | 20%     |  |
| Low Density (5-10 du/ac, 1 du/lot)     | 70%     |  |
| Vacant                                 | 10%     |  |
|  | 100%    |  |

# **Alta Vista Objectives**

- 1. Preserve the single-family development pattern with one house per lot.
- 2. Protect the hillsides slopes and natural topography.



RECOMMENDATIONS MAP

# GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Maintain the single-family development pattern.
- B. Designate 25% or greater slopes for the Hillside Review Overlay Zone.

#### **Alta Vista Recommendations**

- A. Maintain the single-family development pattern.

  Multi\_family development would fail to preserve the character of Alta Vista as it is presently developed. Since this character is positive and compatible with the development pattern of adjacent neighborhoods, the existing single-family development should be maintained.
- B. Designate lands in excess of 25 percent slope for the Hillside Review Overlay Zone. Most of the vacant parcels in Alta Vista have significant slopes and should be developed according to the standards of the Hillside Review Overlay Zone, in order to preserve as much of the natural topography as possible.
- C. Rezone the area west of Woodman, north of Plaza Boulevard, south of Varney Drive and approximately east of Plaza Taxco from a designation of 0-5 units per acre to allow for single-family residential development.

